

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 AMMAN 06618 121618Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3151

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 6618

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, JO, US
SUBJECT: MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY

REF A) STATE 214576, B) AMMAN 6569, C) AMMAN 6245

1. SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVING BACK FROM PARIS, SHARIF ABDUL HAMID SHARAF WAS IN TOUCH WITH ME. HE CONFIRMED THAT MEETING SEPT 28, 3:00 P.M. WITH PRESIDENT WAS AGREEABLE FOR HIM AND HASSAN IBRAHIM. I ALSO DESCRIBED FOR HIM IN GENERAL TERMS ARRANGEMENTS FOR KHADDAM MEETING PER REFTEL A).

2. HE RAISED IN SOMEWHAT ROUND-ABOUT FASHION AND SUBSEQUENTLY MORE DIRECTLY HIS HOPE TO HAVE MEETING WITH SECRETARY IN WASHINGTON. HIS CONCERN STEMS FROM ISSUE RAISED IN REF C). IN BRIEF, SINCE HE IS THE KING'S ENVOY HE WISHES TO BE SEEN (AND KING SO WISHES HIM I AM SURE) AT MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON AND NOT IN NEW YORK. THIS WILL PERMIT JORDANIANS TO SAY THAT SHARAF IS PERSONAL ENVOY OF THE KING IN WASHINGTON FOR BILATERAL MATTERS; IBRAHIM WILL BE CALLED GOVERNMENTAL ENVOY FOR PURPOSE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING. THIS IS TO SATISFY ARCANE BUT NONETHELESS REAL JORDANIAN DOMESTIC CONCERNS ABOUT THE ROLE OF THE PALACE
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AND THE KING ON THE ONE HAND AND THE GOVERNMENT ON THE OTHER.

3. I DO NOT KNOW WHAT SECRETARY'S SCHEDULE FOR WASHINGTON IS LIKELY TO BE. SHARAF INDICATED HE IS PREPARED TO COME TO WASHINGTON AS EARLY AS SEPTEMBER 19 IF NECESSARY, OR EVEN EARLIER IF IT WOULD BE MORE CONVENIENT FOR THE SECRETARY. WHAT HE HAS

IN EFFECT ASKED ME IS WHETHER, IN LIEU OF OR IN
ADDITION TO, THE LUNCHEON MEETING SCHEDULED FOR NEW
YORK AFTER THE 28TH, THERE CAN BE A MEETING IN
WASHINGTON WHICH HE CAN ATTEND WITH SECRETARY VANCE.

4. SHARAF ALSO INDICATED THAT JORDANIANS WERE PUTTING
FINISHING TOUCHES ON THEIR PAPER PROVIDING U.S. WITH
EXPECTED SUGGESTIONS REQUESTED BY THE SECRETARY DURING
HIS VISIT HERE. SHARAF'S PRESENT INTENTION IS TO
PROVIDE ME WITH THE PAPER AS SOON AS IT IS READY SO
THAT WASHINGTON MAY HAVE IT IN HAND AND DIGESTED
BEFORE THE FOLLOW-ON MEETINGS. WE DO NOT EXPECT THE
PAPER WILL BE IN THE FORM OF TREATY LANGUAGE, BUT
RATHER A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND
IDEAS.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE LET US KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
IF THERE IS ANY POSSIBILITY OF ARRANGING FOR A BILATERAL MEETING
BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND SHARAF AND IBRAHIM IN WASHINGTON
PRIOR TO THE SEPTEMBER 28 MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT.
PLEASE CONFIRM ALSO THAT SEPTEMBER 28, 3:00 P.M. IS
AGREEABLE TO THE WHITE HOUSE.
PICKERING

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